

# MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-Five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

## NEWS

### Coming Meetings†

*California Medical Association.* Session will convene in Los Angeles. Dates of the seventy-fourth annual session, to be held in 1945: Sunday, Monday, May 6-7.

*American Medical Association.* The 1945 Session will be held in New York City.

### The Platform of the American Medical Association

The American Medical Association advocates:

1. *The establishment of an agency of Federal Government under which shall be coördinated and administered all medical and health functions of the Federal Government, exclusive of those of the Army and Navy.*

2. *The allotment of such funds as the Congress may make available to any state in actual need for the prevention of disease, the promotion of health, and the care of the sick on proof of such need.*

3. *The principle that the care of the public health and the provision of medical service to the sick is primarily a local responsibility.*

4. *The development of a mechanism for meeting the needs of expansion of preventive medical services with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

5. *The extension of medical care for the indigent and the medically indigent with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*

6. *In the extension of medical services to all the people, the utmost utilization of qualified medical and hospital facilities already established.*

7. *The continued development of the private practice of medicine, subject to such changes as may be necessary to maintain the quality of medical services and to increase their availability.*

8. *Expansion of public health and medical services consistent with the American system of democracy.*

### Medical Broadcasts\*

*The Los Angeles County Medical Association:*

The following is the Los Angeles County Medical Association's radio broadcast schedule for the current month, all broadcasts being given on Saturdays:

KFAC presents the Saturday program at 10.15 a. m., under the title, "Your Doctor and You."

In July KFAC will present these broadcasts on the dates of July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

The Saturday broadcasts of KFI are given at 9:45 a. m., under the title, "The Road to Health."

"Doctors at War":

Radio broadcasts of "Doctors at War" by the American Medical Association, in coöperation with the National Broadcasting Company and the Medical Departments of the United States Army and the United States Navy, are on the air each Saturday at 2 p. m., Pacific War Time. Series commenced on January 8, 1944, will run for twenty-six weeks.

### Pharmacological Items of Potential Interest to Clinicians\*:

1. *Oleanders (Galveston orchids) to:* F. H. Redewill, A. L. Rose & Mead Johnson & Co. for arranging the 7th annual exhibition of the American Physicians Art Association at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, for the AMA meeting June 12-16; the AMA section officers for a swell program (JAMA, 125: 40-70, May 6, 1944); E. P. Mumford and J. L. Mohr of Stanford for their forthcoming free *Manual on Distribution of Communicable Diseases and Their Carriers in the Pacific Islands*; I. Chavez on his fine Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia in Mexico City, with the great Diego Rivera frescos on the history of cardiology, and to R. Pratt, T. C. Daniels, J. J. Eiler, J. B. Gunnison, W. B. Kumler, J. F. Oneto, L. A. Strait, H. A. Spoehr & Co. for finding antibiotic "chlorellin" to chlorella algae which can be so easily grown (*Science*, 99: 351, Apr. 28, 1944). Also to J. Mitchell for a worthy essay on rats and plague in the April 28th *New Yorker*. And to Alien Property Custodian for issuing first list of available foreign titles from Edwards Bros., lithographers at Ann Arbor.

2. *Cancer:* Should be "cancers,"—M. Shimin says we should differentiate cancers and not speak of "cancer" as a single disease. L. Gross raises question of cancers being biologically communicable, but omits reference to J. Beard's collected papers issued by Chatto & Windus in London in 1911 (*Cancer Res.*, 4: 293, 1944). D. Burk & Co. continue studies on production in malignancy *in vitro*, and discuss blood proteose in cancers, *J. Nat. Cancer Inst.*, 4:363, 417, 1944).

3. *Chemotherapy:* A. Albert reviews cationic chemotherapy with reference to acridines (*Med. J. Australia*, 1:245, March 18, 1944). Resistance of organisms to sulfonamides is surveyed by W. T. Goodale and L. Schwab, and also by W. W. Spink and J. J. Vivino (*J. Clin. Invest.*, 23:217, 267, 1944). Winthrop issues second series of its annotated bibliography on penicillin.

4. *Federated Proceedings:* K. H. Beyer and A. R. Latven say succinate shortens barbital narcosis (*Fed. Proc.*, 3:4, 1944). A. H. Brown and R. E. Gosselin confirm reduction of water loss by shade and clothes wetting (*ibid.*, 5). V. Johnson & Co. show that high fat diet taxes bone marrow in recovery of hemorrhagic anemia (p. 8). A. Grollman finds that oxidized marine oils lower experimental hypertension (p. 15). J. T. Hart and W. A. Selle find that urea peroxide contracts smooth muscle (p. 17). H. A. Haterius and E. Glassco confirm M. Prinzmatal that liver extract protects against fatal burn shock. A. M. Hughes notes that thiouracil protects against high altitude anoxia and CO poisoning, but not against cyanide (p. 21). M. B. Visscher & Co. report that high oxygen intake increases metabolism and reduces shivering (p. 26). S. O. Levinson & Co. propose standardized method to produce shock for plasma substitute assay (p. 29). N. S. Maluf says negative intrapleural pressure is result of retractile tension of lungs (p. 31). E. Ogden and C. F. Dalziel analyze sensations during passage of constant galvanic current (p. 35). R. K. Richards and G. M. Everett describe analgesic and anticonvulsant action of 3,5,5-trimethylloxalidine-2,4-dione

† In the front advertising section of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, various rosters of national officers and organizations appear each week, each list being printed about every fourth week.

\* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged.

\* These items submitted by Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, formerly director of the University of California Pharmacologic Laboratory, now dean of the University of Texas Medical School, Galveston, Texas.

(tridione) (p. 39). G. E. Wakerlin & Co. confirm value of renal extracts in treating spontaneous hypertension (in dogs) (p. 50). The Fraenkel-Conrats discuss pituitary control of blood insulin level (p. 57). H. H. Anderson and H. Y. Soong are pessimistic on chemotherapy of experimental leishmaniasis (p. 64). J. H. Draize describes methods for studying skin absorption (p. 69). J. H. Finnegan notes anticonvulsant action of diethylsuccinyl urea (p. 72). C. A. Handley & Co. find amphetamine best antagonist to morphine (p. 75). J. L. Morrison notes choleric action of halogenated fatty acids (p. 83). A. A. Nelson notes hepatic injury from atabrine (p. 91).

5. *Etc.*: Marsh's notes on management of civilian war gas injury (*Ann. Int. Med.* 30:376, 1944). H. S. Mayeron discusses physiology of orthostatic circulatory failure (*Amer. J. Physiol.*, 141:227, 1944), now treated clinically by R. Gregory with desoxycorticosterone and sodium chloride. A. Hemingway analyses cold sweating in motion sickness (*ibid.*, p. 172); C. Entenman & Co. note effectiveness of lipocain in preventing fatty livers (*ibid.*, p. 221). H. S. Bennett & Co. describe effect of anesthetics on normal and shock circulation (*J. Clin. Invest.*, 23:181, 1944).

**Telephone Listings of Physicians in Los Angeles Telephone Directory.**—"The Bulletin" of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, in its issue of June 15, gives the following information:

A report for the Committee on Telephone Directories, Listings and Service was presented by Doctor Wilbur Bailey, member of the Committee, who introduced Mr. Harold E. Dryden, business manager of the classified telephone directory. A change in the listing of members of the Association in the classified directory was discussed by Mr. Dryden, by Doctor William H. Daniel, chairman of the Committee, and by members of the Council.

The Committee recommended approval of the telephone company's proposal of a master list entitled "Physicians and Surgeons, M.D." as now carried, with the addition that in this master list, in an appropriate alphabetical location, members so desiring may be listed under "Los Angeles County Medical Association" by the payment of a fee designated by the telephone company, this fee to be seventy-five cents per month per member. Upon motion by Doctor Tollefson, seconded by Doctor Crowe, the Council approved this proposed listing.

**National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.**—To provide men and women professionally trained in public health work who will aid the nation's army of polio fighters, The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has set aside the sum of \$50,000 for fellowships in health education.

Under this program, which has been developed in coöperation with the U. S. Public Health Service, qualified men of certain Selective Service classifications, as well as qualified women, will go into training starting this fall.

Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation, explained that in coördinating the community's resources of official and voluntary agencies the services of competent health educators would greatly facilitate handling polio outbreaks and the long-continued after-care of infantile paralysis patients. The National Foundation feels that sponsoring these fellowships will therefore result in a public service of far-reaching benefit, he added.

In coöperating with the National Foundation, Surgeon General Thomas Parran, of the U. S. Public Health Service, said: "The success of well-planned state and

local health education programs has amply demonstrated the value of trained personnel having a thorough knowledge of both public health and education. In recent years, the rapid expansion of health education throughout the nation has created a demand for qualified workers that far outstrips the available supply."

Candidates for health education fellowships will be selected by an advisory committee of the U. S. Public Health Service, and those accepted will be assigned to schools of public health at Yale University, the University of Michigan and the University of North Carolina.

A Bachelor of Science Degree, or its equivalent from a recognized college or university, is an essential qualification for one of these fellowships leading to the Master of Science degree in public health. This postgraduate training will consist of nine months' academic work, followed by three months of supervised field experience.

Women between the ages of nineteen and forty who have the above educational qualifications and who are citizens of the United States are eligible. Men who are United States citizens over thirty years of age also may apply, and the War Manpower Commission has declared Selective Service registrants in 4F and 1AL classifications as eligible for health education fellowships.

A fellowship in health education covers a stipend to the trainee of \$100 monthly for twelve months; tuition and university fees to the school; and expenses for field service. Applications are obtainable from the Office of the Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington (14), D. C. Applications must be accompanied by a transcript of college credits and a small photograph, and must be in the Office of the Surgeon General not later than August 15, 1944.

**Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.**—The program for the Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States to be held at the Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City, November 2-4, inclusive, is being rapidly completed. In addition to addresses by the Surgeons General of the Army, Navy, and U. S. Public Health Service and by other distinguished guests, there will be formal papers, panel discussions and scientific and technical exhibits on the latest advances in military medicine.

For additional information, address: Chairman, Convention and Program Committees, Col. C. M. Walson, (MC), U. S. Army, Headquarters Second Service Command, Governors Island 4, New York.

**The Dionne Quintuplets Are Ten.**—When the famous Canadian quintuplets celebrated their tenth birthday on May 28th, the happy event not only marked a milestone in the lives of these five girls, but it also added a page to medical history. For, so far as authentic records show, never before have all five babies born at one time survived for a decade; in fact, except for the quintuplets reported born in Argentina last July, never before have all five babies born at one confinement been known to live more than a short time after birth.

The Dionne quintuplets are "identical," that is, all five developed from a single ovum—another factor which might have operated against their survival. There is statistical evidence to show that identical children do not have as good a chance as fraternal children (plural births where each child develops from a separate ovum) to be born alive and to survive the hazardous first month of life. Data pertaining to the country as a whole for the period 1933-1941 show, for example, that among twins of different sexes—fraternal twins, in other words—out of every 1,000 babies born, 941 are born alive; among twins of like sex, which include both identical

and fraternal offspring, the figure is 919 per 1000. The evidence is even more striking among triplets. In cases where both sexes are represented, there are 891 live births per 1,000 babies born; where the triplets are all of one sex, the figure is 840.

**Coventry Blitz Data.**—Dr. Arthur Massey, medical officer of health for the City of Coventry, England, was one of the principal speakers at the Southern California Public Health Association conference at the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena June 1 and 2.

Dr. Massey was invited by the American Public Health Association to speak in the United States on recent developments in British health services, health education and various other aspects of British public health practice.

During the great Coventry blitz Dr. Massey was in charge of the emergency medical services section of the Coventry Civilian Defense plan. He succeeded in keeping the bombing casualties relatively small, and the city free from epidemics.

Dr. Massey has held his present post since 1930. His responsibilities include supervision of hospitals, clinics, food and water supplies, health education and housing hygiene in the area. He is also a member of numerous medical committees, including the Medical Planning Commission, the Central Council for Health Education, and he is chairman of the Coventry division of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Massey, 50, graduated with honors from the University of Leeds in 1920, after having served as an officer of the Royal Artillery in India during World War I. He obtained a diploma in public health in 1921, and one in public administration at the University of London in 1932.

In 1941, Dr. Massey was created a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He has published many accounts of his researches in industrial medicine and slum clearance.

At the opening session of the Southern California Public Health Association, the afternoon of June 1, Dr. Massey spoke on "New Trends in Public Health," a subject discussed by Dr. Hubert O. Swarthout, health officer of Los Angeles County.

**Licenses of New York Physicians Suspended.**—The licenses to handle cases under the Workmen's Compensation Act of 272 physicians were suspended by the New York industrial commissioner, June 4, under accusation of a "kick-back" racket. A legislative committee revealed widespread bill padding and "kick back" of fees by specialists, surgical houses and others to whom the physicians had referred injured workmen.

Leading workmen compensation writers on the Pacific Coast report no indication of a similar occurrence here.

**American Urological Society.**—Dr. Jay J. Crane, assistant clinical professor of urology at the University of Southern California Medical School on June 3 was elected president of the American Urological Society's western section. Dr. Dudley Fagerstrom of San Jose was named vice-president and Dr. Adolph Kutzmann of Los Angeles, secretary-treasurer.

**Fighting Tuberculosis in Wartime.**—Everyone remembers Sherman's definition, "War is hell." In the first two years after our entry into the war, it has taken a toll of 69,000 of our citizens, either dead or missing. Yet in the same period there were more than one and one-half times as many deaths from tuberculosis in the United States, or 112,000 tuberculosis deaths.

In past wars the tuberculosis death rate has risen. It

has also risen in this war in other countries. It seems reasonable to suspect that the increases are due to factors such as crowded living conditions, lessened opportunities for preventing the spread of the disease, long hours and high-pressure work, limited diets, and the temptation for active cases to work when they should be taking treatment recommended by physicians.

Many authorities have recognized the need for increased efforts in combatting tuberculosis in wartime. Health education activities have been expanded. Unprecedented steps have been taken to find early tuberculosis. The Army and Navy x-rays all inductees. Almost 13 per cent of the new cases for 1943 in California were found through the follow-up of the men referred by the State Selective Service. Civilian agencies, including the U. S. Public Health Service and the Tuberculosis Associations, are x-raying hundreds of thousands of industrial employees. But sanatorium and other public health and treatment facilities have not been increased. In some instances their use has actually been decreased.

We were wont to think of tuberculosis as having been pushed down the ladder in causes of death to sixth place. This was true in the United States as a whole in 1942. Let us come closer home and see what happened in California that year.

Tuberculosis was the second cause of death in California for all age groups, 1 to 45 years. For 1 to 4, tuberculosis was exceeded only by pneumonia and influenza (a combined cause of death); for age groups 5 to 14 and 15 to 24, motor vehicle deaths took first place, with deaths from tuberculosis a close second; in the 25 to 44 group, heart disease assumed first place followed closely by tuberculosis. These figures may serve to keep us from becoming satisfied with past accomplishments in reducing the tuberculosis mortality.

**National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.**—Twenty-seven grants totaling \$1,128,770 for intensifying and broadening the nation-wide fight against infantile paralysis have just been made by The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The grants, which were made to leading universities, laboratories and other organizations from coast to coast, will strengthen the National Foundation's program of seeking ways and means of alleviating suffering of victims and will press even harder the ceaseless battle to find a preventive or cure for the disease.

Prominent among the grants are three long-term programs, each covering a five-year period. Two of the long-term grants, totaling \$495,000, are for the purpose of improving knowledge in the field of physical medicine, which plays a significant rôle in the successful treatment of infantile paralysis.

These two grants provide for the establishment of two "Units for Research in Physiology as Related to Physical Medicine."

The larger of these units will be at the Medical School of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, established by the National Foundation grant of \$320,000. It was at this university that the original tests of the Kenny method were financed by the National Foundation which has maintained a Kenny training center there since that time.

Under a grant for \$175,000, the other unit will be established at Northwestern University Medical School, which was one of the first institutions to adopt a Department of Physical Medicine and to encourage research in this specialty.

The third long-term grant, for \$325,000, was made to the University of Michigan School of Public Health at Ann Harbor to finance and operate an expanded virus study unit. This unit represents a direct attack on the cause of the disease since it provides both for virus

research and for the training of virologists. Special emphasis will be given to the development of some quick, inexpensive and practical method of identifying the polio virus, which, if accomplished, would greatly forward epidemiological studies of the disease as well as making it possible to obtain fast positive diagnosis.

**Meningococcus (Epidemic) Meningitis on the Increase in Los Angeles.**—There has been a marked increase in the incidence of meningococcus (epidemic) meningitis throughout the United States during the past two years. Los Angeles has shared in this increase, as evidenced by the following figures: During the years 1939, 1940 and 1941, there were 13, 8, and 11 cases of meningococcus meningitis respectively. During 1942, there were 58 cases. During 1943, 154 cases. To date, during the first five months of 1944, there have been 100 cases and 23 deaths.

The Los Angeles City Health Department has called on all physicians to be on the alert to diagnose this disease in the early stages. When diagnosed early, and treatment is instituted with appropriate sulfa drugs, the mortality is very low. The most characteristic symptom is a petechial rash which occurs in from 50% to 70% of patients. This rash is usually scanty, and must be looked for especially around the wrist and ankles. The petechiae vary from 1 to 3 millimeters in diameter, range in color from rose to deep red, assume quite irregular sizes, may take on various geometric shapes, and in very severe cases may appear as large purpuric (hemorrhagic) areas. The rash occurs within a few hours of the onset of illness and fades in a few days. Other symptoms such as headache, stiff neck, high fever, drowsiness, pains in the limbs and back, are also common.

The organism causing epidemic meningitis is the meningococcus. This organism is easily transmitted from individual to individual by means of minute droplets in the exhaled breath; by direct contact such as kissing; and by indirect contact such as contaminated eating utensils. It is definitely known that the majority of people exposed to a case of meningococcus meningitis will harbor the organism in their throats without becoming ill, and disseminate the organism in the community just as much as would an actual case. The Health Department recommends, therefore, that all contacts of cases of meningococcus meningitis be given small doses of sulfadiazine; i.e., 2 to 3 gm. per day for three days, to eliminate the carrier state.

**American Congress of Physical Therapy.**—Will hold its twenty-third annual scientific and clinical session September 6, 7, 8 and 9, 1944, inclusive, at the Hotel Statler, Cleveland, Ohio. Physical therapy plays an important part in this work. The annual instruction course will be from 8:00 to 10:30 a. m., and from 1:00 to 2:00 p. m., during the days of September 6, 7 and 8. The scientific and clinical sessions will be given on the remaining portions of these days and evenings. All of these sessions will be open to the members of the regular medical profession and their qualified aids. For information concerning the instruction course and program of the convention proper, address the American Congress of Physical Therapy, 30 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 2, Illinois.

**International College of Surgeons.**—The Ninth Annual Assembly of the International College of Surgeons will be held on October 3, 4 and 5, 1944, at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Pa. The program will be devoted to War, Rehabilitation and Civilian Surgery.

**Minneapolis Public Library Stages a Medical Art Show.**—The Minneapolis Public Library staged a unique art show, June 21-July 22, representing the work of leading medical artists the country over. This was part of a program for extending the services of the Public Library to one of the foremost medical centers in the United States, and dramatizing the resources of such departments as the Art, Technical, and Clipping Service.

A display of rare medical books and prints forms an important part of the exhibit. From the library of the Surgeon-General in Washington have come four books showing the earliest examples of anatomical drawings, the datelines varying from 1551 to 1682.

**Press Clippings.**—Some news items from the daily press on matters related to medical practice follow:

#### A.M.A. Loses in Court Test

Chicago, June 20.—(INS.)—The American Medical Association (A.M.A.) was termed today by Circuit Judge Michael Feinberg as an organization which engages in propaganda activities and lobbying.

Judge Feinberg ordered the A.M.A. to pay more than \$500,000 in State unemployment compensation and old age benefit levies on salaries paid 653 employees since 1937.

In his ruling, Judge Feinberg upheld an unemployment compensation board of review decision that the A.M.A. is not exclusively an educational or scientific organization, and declared the organization had violated the purposes stated in its charter by engaging in propaganda activities.

The decision ended a suit for a writ of certiorari filed by the A.M.A. last July 29 against the State department of labor, in which it asked to be declared exempt from provisions of the Federal and State Social Security laws. —San Francisco *Examiner*, July 21.

#### Boston Doctor to Head A.M.A.

Chicago.—(AP.)—Dr. Roger I. Lee of Boston was chosen president-elect of the American Medical Association yesterday. He takes office one year from now.

Dr. Stanley J. Seeger of Texarkana, Texas, was elected vice-president, and Dr. Olin West of Chicago, whom the California delegation tried unsuccessfully this week to have retired, was reelected secretary. The elections were unanimous.

Dr. Herman L. Kretschmer of Chicago is president for the 1944-45 year. Retiring president is Dr. James E. Paullin of Atlanta, Ga.—Sacramento *Union*, June 17.

#### Doctors Told Post-War Task

Chicago, June 12.—Dr. James E. Paullin, Atlanta, Ga., president of the American Medical Association, today directed the Association's house of delegates to consider the problems of maintaining medical education during the war and rehabilitation of men discharged from the armed forces.

Dr. Paullin told the delegates at the opening of the A.M.A.'s 94th annual convention that because of a selective service directive prohibiting deferment of premedical students the only persons attending medical schools in 1945 will be physically disqualified men and women.

He suggested the establishment of a central coordinating agency representing all groups active in rehabilitation of persons released from the armed forces to avoid reduplication of effort and overlapping of service.

Dr. Paullin urged the delegates to consider the recommendation of the A.M.A.'s post-war planning committee that a bureau for the better distribution of doctors be established at Chicago to act as a clearing house of information for physicians discharged from the armed forces.

He advocated the establishment of refresher courses for the "20,000 to 25,000 younger physicians now in military service who have never engaged in the private practice of medicine."

More than 20,000 physicians and their families are registered for the five-day convention which occupies five hotels, and more than 300 speakers are scheduled to address the sessions.—San Francisco *News*, June 12.